MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
24 JULY 1963

The Commission met, pursuant to notice, at 10:00 a.m., with David E. Finley, Chairman, presiding.

Present were: Members - David E. Finley
Burnham Kelly
Theodore Roszak
Aline Saarinen
William Walton
John Carl Warnecke

Staff - L.R.Wilson, Secretary
C.H.Atherton, Asst. Sec'y
C.L.Martin, Counsel
Myra Younker, Editor
Recorder - Leone M. Vialpando

I. ADMINISTRATION

1. Date of Next Meeting

It was decided not to hold a meeting in August unless special circumstances required it. The next regular meeting of the Commission was set for September 18th at 9:30 a.m., with an executive session at 10:15 a.m. on September 17th.

2. Report of the Chairman

Chairman Finley welcomed Mrs. Saarinen, Mr. Kelly, Mr. Roszak, Mr. Walton and Mr. Warnecke and made a brief report on several continuing projects which he considered of interest to the new members of the Commission. The report is EXHIBIT A.

3. Election of Officers

Chairman Finley stated that he expected to retire from the Commission as soon as his successor has been appointed and qualified. He, therefore, recommended the election of new officers of the Commission at this meeting. Mr. Walton and Mr. Kelly were elected Chairman and Vice Chairman respectively.

II. SUBMISSIONS-REVIEWS-INTERVIEWS

1. Department of the Interior, National Park Service

Guard Houses and Northwest Gatehouse, White House Grounds - Revised Designs

Mr. Robert C. Horne, Associate Regional Director, National Capital

Region, National Park Service, Major Ralph C. Stover, White House Police Force, and Mr. Walter Macomber, architect of Macomber and Peter, presented designs for a two-man guard house and a new gatehouse to be located at the northwest gate to the White House grounds on Pennsylvania Avenue.

Major Stover and Mr. Macomber explained the need for a new gatehouse and guard houses, their location on the White House grounds, and the security requirements which had dictated to a large extent the features of the design. Previous designs were presented at the meeting of the Commission on July 18, 1963, when it was requested that the designs be restudied and considered at the next meeting of the Commission.

In his explanation of the smaller guard house structures Major Stover pointed out that a building was required which would provide a maximum ammount of visibility and which could be easily and quickly moved about or replaced when necessary. In addition, he stated that a round glass cylinder projecting from the roof would permit future installation of a television scanning system. To meet these practical requirements it was proposed that the structures be made of painted aluminum and glass. Scanning equipment would be housed within a detachable peaked roof of aluminum, terminated by a 16 inch glass cylinder with an aluminum cap within which a scanning camera could be located.

The members were not satisfied with the proposed design. They thought that the high peaked roof and glass cupola should be eliminated since there were no immediate plans to install scanning equipment and no funds available to purchase it. It was suggested that the architect prepare studies of a simple, straight forward design without architectural embellishments.

The design of the northwest gatehouse was a revision to that presented at the meeting of the Commission on 18 June. The design showed an L-shaped building with a projecting glass guard booth and a flat-roofed porch supported by four aluminum columns, as a shelter for visitors awaiting clearance for entrance to the White House and the Executive Offices. Projecting from the hipped roof was a typical 18 inch glass cupola.

The members disagreed with the basic approach to the design. They thought the architecture was too pretentious and strained in attempting to recall the character of the White House. They expressed a preference for a simple guardhouse structure which would not recall either the White House or try to blend into the architecture of the gates. Specifically, they recommended that new studies be prepared which would eliminate the porch and substitute a simple roof overhang; square off the shape of the building; eliminate the glass cupola; and reduce the pitch of the hipped roofs. A rectangular form was preferred for the guardhouse at the Northwest Gate.

The Chairman was authorized to send a letter to the Director of the National Park Service setting forth the views of the Commission. EXHIBIT B

2. United States Commission to New York World's Fair

Program for Exhibition of Sculpture

Mr. Phillip George, Assistant Commissioner of the United States Commission to the New York World's Fair, met with the Commission for advice on a proposed program for the display of sculpture at the Federal Pavilion building.

Using a site plan and a rendering of the Federal Pavilion, Mr. George explained that there would be a "Mall" of approximately 200,000 square feet adjoining the main floor of the building. The United States Commission, he said, was considering a display in this area of a panorama of American sculpture of approximately twenty-five large pieces. Mr. Porter McCray, Curator, Museum of Modern Art, New York, was making a survey of the major pieces of sculpture in the country, to determine their availability for loan and display.

Mr. Roszak and some of the other members expressed doubt as to the advisability of attempting to create a panorama of American sculpture as proposed by Mr. George, in the setting proposed. They thought that the display might be out of context with the spirit of the Fair, and suggested a display of contemporary sculpture, coupled with a competition, in its stead. Mr. George felt that there would not be adequate time for a competition.

After further discussion the members advised Mr. George to allow Mr. McCray to make final decisions as to what pieces of sculpture would be selected, without any direct responsibility on the part of the Commission.

3. Smithsonian Institution

National Zoological Park Improvements - Connecticut Avenue Entrance and Design of Adjacent Display Areas

The Assistant Secretary showed the members site plans, sketches and preliminary plans illustrating "Phase Two" of the 10-year construction program for the redevelopment of the Zoo, developed by the Smithsonian Institution and the District of Columbia Department of Buildings and Grounds. (Phase One of the program, which included improvements to the Bird Pavilion and a new flight cage, was approved by the Commission at its meeting on 23 January 1963).

Phase Two of the program would include a new pedestrian entrance from Connecticut Avenue, a visitors' reception center, and redevelopment of exhibit areas for hoofed stock animals.

It was explained that the plans presented a revision of the original conception of the pedestrian entrance. As originally conceived the entrance

was formal and symmetrical with a large paved ellipse near Connecticut Avenue and a fountain on axis beyond that. In the revised plan visitors would enter along curved paths framed by two hills, to arrive at an open plaza with a fountain. A cascade would empty into a narrow moat separating the exhibit area from the visitors. Parallel to the moat a large viewing terrace, approximately 375 feet by 100 feet, was shown.

The members were asked by the Smithsonian Institution to give their opinion as to which of the two entranceway arrangements was preferable, and on the appropriateness of the extensive viewing terrace.

It was decided that the Commission should visit the Zoo and examine the site before reaching any conclusions. Later in the day the members toured the Zoo by automobile. They concluded that they should meet with the architects to determine in greater detail what the probable impact of the proposed concepts would be.

The Chairman was authorized to send a letter requesting that the architects meet with the Commission during the September meeting and asking that a simple scale model be prepared. EXHIBIT C

4. Department of the Army, The Institute of Heraldry

a. Department of Defense Joint Service Commendation Medal - Preliminary Sketches

A design for the Department of Defense Joint Service Commendation Medal was examined. The design consisted of a laurel wreath surrounding a four-sided shield bearing thirteen stars and an eagle clasping three arrows. The design had been approved by the Department of Defense before its submission to the Commission.

The members thought that the design was not in any way exceptional. Mr. Finley pointed out that the Commission had recommended on several occasions that the design of important medals should be executed by distinguished sculptors.

The Commission voted to approve the design under the circumstances and authorized the Chairman to reiterate the Commission's recommendation that sculptors be commissioned to execute important medals. EXHIBIT D

b. Air Force Combat Ready Medal - Proposed Design

The members were shown 12 preliminary sketches of proposed designs for the Air Force Combat Ready Medal to be awarded for five years of outstanding service as a combat ready crewman of the intercontinental missile system.

After examining all the sketches the members selected two designs

which they thought had the possibility of development into a suitable design.

The Chairman was authorized to send a letter setting forth the views of the Commission. EXHIBIT E

5. District of Columbia Government, Department of Licenses and Inspections

Shipstead-Luce Act

a. Embassy and Chancery for the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, 6036 Oregon Avenue, N.W. - Preliminary Plans

The members were shown site plans, elevations and a perspective of a preliminary design for an embassy and chancery building for the U.S.S.R. to be located on a 16-acre estate in the 6000 block of Oregon Avenue, N.W.

The proposed ell-shaped structure would consist of a rectangular four-story embassy wing 220 feet long facing Oregon Avenue and Rock Creek Park, with a three-story chancery wing joining it at a right angle on the southern end. The structure would be pre-cast concrete. The design of the main facade featured strip windows, with a vertical treatment in marble at the ends and in the center over the main entrance and marquis. Parking for 150 cars would be provided immediately west of the chancery. The 220 foot facade was considered to be the most significant aspect of the design because of its prominence from Oregon Avenue. It was agreed that the apparent mass of the proposed facade was overpowering and it was recommended that the design be restudied in order to reduce its impact on the wooded landscape of the area.

The Chairman was authorized to send a letter to the Assistant Superintendent, D.C.Department of Licenses and Inspections, giving the Commission's views and recommending that further studies be submitted to the Commission. EXHIBIT F

b. Building Applications - Appendix 1

The Commission considered the action proposed on Shipstead-Luce building permit applications forwarded for review by the Department of Licenses and Inspections, as listed in Appendix 1 dated 24 July 1963. Confirmation was given in each case of the favorable recommendations, and in the unfavorable recommendation in the case of S.L. 2620, 2200 P St., N.W., Gulf Oil Company, and S.L. 64-8, 800 17th St., N.W., Riggs National Bank.

Old Georgetown Act, Public Law 808, 81st Congress

a. O.G. 64-4, 3037 K Street, N.W.-Application to Raze Existing Dwelling

The Commission considered an application to raze an existing

building located on the northwest corner of K Street and Thomas Jefferson Street, N.W. The building is a three-story brick structure with an attic and was built by W. Dorsey some time before 1816. From information supplied to the Commission there is some indication that it was known as the Eagle Tavern. The structure is unoccupied and is not condemned. The Secretary reported that he had inspected the building inside and out and found several of the interior architectural features had been preserved. The Old Georgetown Board of Architects had recommended that some way be found to save the building.

Later in the day the members inspected the building. They found that it was clearly an example of an early 19th century dwelling and that its exterior architectural features would qualify it as the type of building intended to be preserved by the Old Georgetown Act. It was also recognized that the building was located in a dirty, noisy industrial area and within a few feet of the elevated Whitehurst Freeway, and would be totally unsuitable for habitation as a residence. It was noted, however, that some old buildings in the neighborhood along K Street had been reconditioned and converted to commercial use.

The members concluded that as the building was an example of the type of architecture intended to be preserved by the Old Georgetown Act the Commission should recommend to the District Commissioners that a thorough study be made of all possible ways to save the building before a permit to raze it was granted. They noted that the structure was located on a fairly large plot of cleared land extending from K Street to the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal and suggested that the study include investigation of the possibility of moving the building and incorporating it in any plans for a new building located on the site.

The Chairman was authorized to send a letter setting forth the views of the Commission. EXHIBIT G

b. Building Applications - Appendix 2

The Assistant Secretary reported the actions taken, after the recommendations of the Old Georgetown Board of Architects on the applications forwarded for review by the District of Columbia Department of Licenses and Inspections. The Report was dated 24 July 1963, and comprised Appendix 2 of the Order of Business. After examining the individual cases the Commission confirmed the favorable recommendations. Unfavorable recommendations were confirmed in the following cases:

O.G. 3454	3335 M St., N.W., Eagle Wine and Liquors
O.G. 3459	1403 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., Northrup's Gas Station
O.G. 3464	1302 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., Joseph M. Wise
O.G. 3466	3242 M Street, N.W., Niagara Cyclo-Massage
O.G. 63-8	1264 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., Martins Tavern
O.G. 64-10	1725 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., Kumin's Art Custom Tailor

III. LEGISLATION

Requests for Reports from Committees of Congress

The members discussed the proposed legislation, on which reports had been requested by various Committees of Congress, as listed in EXHIBIT H.

The members approved drafting unfavorable reports on:

S. 1610, a bill to authorize the construction of a building on the Mall at 15th Street and Independence Avenue by the Bureau of Water Resources of the National Rivers and Harbors Congress.

H.R. 7391, a bill relating to the James Madison Memorial, the Third Library of Congress building, restoration and beautification of the Mall, rehabilitation of the residential and business district of the Capitol Hill area, and the naming of District of Columbia and Federal buildings as memorials.

It was agreed that the Commission should withhold its comments on H.R. 7070, a bill to extend for three years the time within which the Board of Trustees may receive funds for the construction of the National Cultural Center and to direct that at least one of the auditoriums of the center be located on the site reserved for the Franklin Delano Roosevelt, etc., pending final action by Congress on S. 1652 which had passed the Senate.

A report expressing no objection to H.R. 5495, a bill to provide for the establishment of a Federal Advisory Council on the Arts, was approved.

The Chairman was authorized to file the above reports with the Legislative Reference Office of the Budget Bureau, for review, and to forward them to the respective Committees of Congress, when released.

IV. TOUR OF INSPECTION

At 2:30 pm the members inspected the dwelling at 3037 "K" Street, N.W., and old Connecticut Avenue entrance to the Zoo.

The meeting was adjourned at the conclusion of the trip about 4:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

C. L. Martin

C. L. Martin, Counsel

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
24 July 1963

AM
10:00 I. CONVENE, ROOM 7000, INTERIOR DEPARTMENT BUILDING

II. ADMINISTRATION

1. Date of Next Meeting: 18 September 1963, 9:30 a.m.

Executive Session: 17 September 1963, 10:15 a.m.

2. Report of Chairman:

a. Seventeenth and Eighteenth Reports of the Commission of Fine Arts

b. Fifty Year Report, Commission of Fine Arts, Preliminary Draft

c. Transportation Program - Hearings on H.R.7429 and H.R.6633, before Subcommittee #6, House Committee on the District of Columbia

d. Committee for Review of Three Sisters Bridge and North Leg of Inner Loop

e. National Portrait Gallery - Funds for Preparing Old Patent Office

f. National Cultural Center - Fund Raising

III. SUBMISSIONS-REVIEWS-INTERVIEWS

10:30 1. Department of the Interior, National Park Service

Guard Houses and Northwest Gatehouse, White House Grounds (Major Ralph C. Stover, White House Police; Mr. Walter Macomber, architect)

11:00 2. United States Commission to New York World's Fair

Program for Exhibition of Sculpture
(Mr. Philip George, Assistant Commissioner)

3. Smithsonian Institution

National Zoological Park Improvements - Connecticut Avenue Entrance and Design of Display Areas

4. Department of the Army, The Institute of Heraldry

a. Department of Defense Joint Service Commendation Medal - Preliminary Sketches

b. Air Force Combat Ready Medal - Proposed Design

5. District of Columbia Government, Department of Licenses and Inspections

a. Shipstead Luce Act Submissions

(1) Russian Embassy and Chancery, 6036 Oregon Avenue, N.W. - Preliminary Design

(2) Building Applications (Appendix 1)

b. Old Georgetown Act Submissions

(1) O.G. 64-4, 3037 K Street, N.W. - Raze Existing Dwelling

(2) Building Applications (Appendix 2)

IV. LEGISLATION

1. H.R.7070-6/17/63-Mr.Kyl-88thC-Rpt Rqstd

To amend the National Cultural Center Act to extend for an additional three years the period during which construction funds may be received, and to put the National Cultural Center on a sound, businesslike basis, and for other purposes.

2. H.R.7391-7/5/63-Mr.Widnall-88thC-Rpt Rqstd

To authorize and direct the Architect of the Capitol to construct the third Library of Congress building in square 732 in the District of Columbia, to provide that such building shall be designated the "President James Madison Memorial Library", and to provide that additional facilities for the Library of Congress shall be built in squares 637 and 691 in the District of Columbia in order to render unnecessary the construction (at a cost of $39 million) of a special memorial to President James Madison, and for other purposes.

3. H.R.5495-4/4/63-Mr.Lindsay-88thC-Rpt Rqstd

To provide for the establishment of a Federal Advisory Council on the Arts to assist in the growth and development of the fine arts in the United States.

12:45 pm Discussion with Members of Press

1:00 pm Adjourn for Lunch

2:15 pm Inspection Trip

4:00 pm Adjourn

NOTES ON ORDER OF BUSINESS

Reports: We have a preliminary draft of the 50 Year Report of the Commission ready for review. The 17th Report covering the years 1954 - 1958 is at the printers, and the 18th Report, 1958 - 1962, will go very shortly.

Transportation Hearings: A hearing on the bill authorizing a subway system for Washington was held last Thursday before a subcommittee of the House District Committee. Copies of the Commission's testimony are available for the members.

Transportation Study: The President, in sending the transportation bill to the Congress recently, recommended the report of the National Capital Transportation Agency but also directed that the District of Columbia Commissioners make a further study of the necessity for the proposed Three Sisters Bridge and the North Leg of the Inner Loop, as well as the design. He recommended that these two features be delayed pending such a study by the District Commissioners and other Federal agencies including the Commission of Fine Arts. He wished the report to take into consideration the aesthetic, social and economic impact on the city. Other portions of the Inner Loop were recommended by the President.

A meeting was called by Mr. Horsky, the President's Adviser for National Capital Affairs, which was held on July 16. A second meeting was held on July 19 in the office of Colonel Duke, Engineer Commissioner for the District of Columbia. I attended both meetings, representing the Commission, but as I expect shortly to retire from the Commission I suggested Mr. Walton as a member of the Policy Advisory Committee.

EXHIBIT A

Other members of this Committee are Mrs. James H. Rowe, Jr., Chairman of the National Capital Planning Commission; Conrad L. Wirth, Director of the National Park Service; Colonel Charles M. Duke, Engineer Commissioner for the District of Columbia; Rex Whitton, Federal Highway Administrator, and John C. Kohl, Assistant Administrator for Transportation for the Housing and Home Finance Agency. This Committee has considered mainly methods of operation and will hold another meeting on July 25.

I might add that the question involved in the study of the North Leg is one of design and location. The original scheme called for an 8-lane depressed roadway from "K" Street, North to "S" Street, generally following a corridor to the east of 21st Street; then swinging east to North Capitol, etc. The Transportation Agency recommended a similar freeway of reduced size (6-lane) going up 23d Street to "P" Street and then tunneled to Massachusetts Avenue. After passing under Massachusetts Avenue, the sunken freeway would follow Florida Avenue and swing east under Connecticut Avenue, and then come to the surface in a six lane boulevard. The two systems are quite similar except in the last respect.

As far as the Three Sisters Bridge is concerned, no position has been publically taken by the Commission of Fine Arts, although during the discussion of the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Bridge some years ago, the Commission of Fine Arts recommended a Three Sisters Bridge as preferable to the Constitution Avenue site.

National Portrait Gallery: Construction funds for the renovation of the Old Patent Office Building to house the National Portrait Gallery and the National Collection of Fine Arts were voted by both the House and the Senate recently, and only await the signature of the President. Work will begin when the building is vacated by the Civil Service Commission which is moving into the new Federal Building at 19th and "E" Street in the autumn. Plans for the renovation of the Patent Office Building have been approved by the Commission of Fine Arts, as submitted by the General Services Administration on behalf of the Smithsonian Institution. Faulkner, Kingsbury and Stenhouse of Washington are the architects.

Cultural Center Funds: A bill extending the period during which funds could be raised for the National Cultural Center has passed the Senate and is now before the House of Representatives. The period was to have originally expired this Fall but will be extended to 1966. Also trustees will be increased from 15 to 30.

SUBMISSIONS

White House Guard Houses: Preliminary designs for both guard houses and the northwest gatehouse were reviewed by the Commission at its meeting in June. The architect, Mr. Macomber, was asked to make changes in the northwest gatehouse, simplifying the form and relating the detail to the adjoining entrance gates. The recommendations of this Commission should be made to Mr. Jett of the National Park Service, National Capital Region, and then taken to the President and Mrs. Kennedy for their approval.

New York World's Fair - Sculpture Program

National Zoo: This submission represents a further step in the renovation of the entire Zoo, a program which is to span a period of 10 years. The Commission has approved the overall plan and several of the display structures which are now under construction. This submission is of a preliminary nature, as far as the design is concerned, but the location of the proposed displays has already been approved as part of the general plan.

Medals: Both designs are preliminary, with no prior action by the Commission. Action should be taken.

Shipstead-Luce:

Russian Embassy - Rezoning for the construction of this building, while subject of much controversy, has been approved by the District government, and is not a matter for consideration. The D. C. Permit Office has sent drawings to the Commission of Fine Arts for its recommendations.

Georgetown:

The house at 3037 "K" Street, N.W., is an authentic example of early Federal architecture on the exterior,having been constructed by W.O. Dorsey, circa 1816, probably for use as a tavern. It qualifies in every respect for preservation and it is recommended that it be saved by the Board of Architectural Consultants for Georgetown.

29 July 1963

Dear Mr. Wirth:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on 24 July 1963, considered designs for a gatehouse of stone at the Northwest Gate of the White House Grounds and a typical guard house of aluminum for use at security stations around the perimeter of the grounds.

The members of the Commission were not satisfied with the designs, which, they agreed gave an impression of a compromise between the technical and architectural requirements. Elimination of the glass cylinder on the roof was accordingly recommended in order to free the design from its most questionable feature.

It was further recommended that a straight forward approach to the design be made that would stress simplicity of form and avoid eighteenth century details.

The Commission hopes that further studies can be ready for review at its next meeting on 18 September. If ready before that time we shall be glad to forward copies of the design to each of the members for comment.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

William Walton
Chairman

Honorable Conrad Wirth
Director
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington 25, D.C.

EXHIBIT B

[illegible]

29 July 1963

Dear Doctor Carmichael:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on July 24, considered the designs for the new Connecticut Avenue pedestrian entranceway and adjacent display areas at the National Zoological Garden.

Plans for this newest phase of the redevelopment program were carefully studied in relation to the general plan and also to the recent construction which had been previously approved by the Commission. It was noted that these new designs differed from the earlier scheme.

The pedestrian entrance is much less formal in its relation to Connecticut Avenue. At the same time the display area adjoining the cascade and pool appears to be geometric in arrangement rather than the natural patterns approved in the original plan. There was some concern as to why these changes had been made.

Following the meeting, the members inspected the site of the proposed construction. They were impressed with how well the present planting and topography fit into the informal character of the Zoo. While it was not possible to measure the exact effect that the new construction would have on the existing conditions, it appeared that it might be considerable.

It would be very helpful in this respect to have a model of existing conditions large enough to make a good comparison with the proposed changes. This model should be a working model, simple and inexpensive. Photographs would also be helpful.

The Commission will meet again on September 18. At that time they would like to meet with the architect to discuss the proposed plans, especially the Connecticut Avenue entranceway and plaza. The architectural treatment of the individual buildings will also be considered, but is secondary to the above two items.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

William Walton
Chairman

Doctor Leonard Carmichael
Secretary
The Smithsonian Institution
Washington 25, D.C.

EXHIBIT C

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

29 July 1963

Dear Colonel Temple:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on July 24, considered the proposed design for the Department of Defense Joint Service Commendation Medal. It was noted that the design already had been approved by the Department of Defense.

The Commission approved the design in view of the circumstances, but did not believe that the medal would have any particular artistic distinction. The members reiterated the recommendation made on previous occasions that the design of important medals such as the Joint Service Commendation Medal be executed by distinguished sculptors.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

William Walton
Chairman

Colonel Harry D. Temple
Commanding Officer
The Institute of Heraldry
Cameron Station
5010 Duke Street
Alexandria, Virginia

EXHIBIT D

29 July 1963

Dear Colonel Temple:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on July 24, considered sketch designs of the proposed Air Force Combat Ready Medal.

The Commission was glad to see the design at the preliminary stage and before other agencies had expressed a preference.

Of the twelve sketches submitted the Commission preferred two which they thought had the capability of being developed into superior designs. Both utilized simple V-shaped forms superimposed on a circular field of the same motif. Both had a clarity and force not evident in the other examples. The omission of extraneous and small scale elements was also particularly commendable.

As the sketches were not included in the group of three identified in your letter of July 11, we are enclosing photo copies of the preferred designs. We are also returning the original remaining sketches.

The next meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts is scheduled for September 18, when more developed studies could be reviewed. As new members of the Commission, we would also like to meet you and talk over problems of mutual interest.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

William Walton
Chairman

Colonel Harry D. Temple
Commanding Officer
The Institute of Heraldry
Cameron Station
5010 Duke Street
Alexandria, Virginia

EXHIBIT E

July 24, 1963

Dear Mr. Green:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on July 24th, considered Shipstead-Luce Application No. 64-2 for the design and construction of a chancery and embassy building to be erected at 6036 Oregon Avenue, N. W. Squares 2343 and 2344.

The site covers an area of approximately 16 acres, of which 725 lineal feet fronts on Oregon Avenue and Rock Creek Park. The property varies in elevation from its lowest point of 230' at the north corner on Oregon Avenue to 285' in the center of the lot. The building site averages about 40' higher along the length of the adjoining park road.

The proposed building would be an "L"-shaped structure 4 stories high toward the park and 3 stories on the rear wing. The higher portion would be 220' long, with the facade broken only by a small canopy at the center and principal entrance.

It was the effect of this unbroken facade that was the principle concern of the Commission. The combined elements of height and length, and the added prominence of the 40'-rise in the site were thought to be too severe for the predominantly residential character of the neighborhood.

The members of the Commission noted from photographs that some screen planting existed along Oregon Avenue which would appear to lessen the impact of the building as seen from the park. A large part of the planting is of a deciduous variety, however, and would not be particularly effective during the winter months. Even with additional screen planting the bulk of the proposed structure would still be objectionable. The Commission therefore recommends that further studies be made to reduce the massing and scale, with a view toward achieving a building with more residential character. Although a number of ways in which this might be done were discussed at the meeting, the Commission believes it would be better to have further studies first presented by the architect rather than to make specific suggestions at this time.

The Commission will be glad to meet with the architect to review revised designs at its next meeting, which is scheduled for September 18, 1963.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. Julian P. Green
Assistant Superintendent
of Licenses and Permits
106 District Building
Washington 4, D. C.

William Walton
Chairman

EXHIBIT F

1 August 1963

Dear Mr. Green:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on July 24, considered the proposed razing of an existing dwelling at 3037 "K" Street, N.W., G.G. Application #64-4.

The Commission has inspected the building and believes that it has sufficient architectural merit to warrant preservation. Its style is typical of the early Federal period, probably having been constructed around 1815. There are good examples of interior detailing on the upper floors, and the brick masonry walls appear to be structurally sound. It has not been condemned.

In its present location, however, the proximity of the elevated Whitehurst freeway imposes limitations on the building's future use. It is obvious that it cannot be restored as a dwelling. On the other hand, it might be converted to commercial or industrial purposes, such as other structures nearby that were formerly old houses.

The Commission suggests further study of such possibilities. It is also suggested that these studies might include relocating the building away from the freeway with a new orientation on the site. It is likely that an imaginative use of the existing structure could prove to be more financially desirable than to replace it with an entirely new structure.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

William Walton
Chairman

Mr. Julian P. Green
Assistant Superintendent for
Licenses and Permits
District Building
Washington 4, D. C.

EXHIBIT G

IV. LEGISLATION

1. H.R.7070-6/17/63-Mr.Kyl-88thC-Rpt Rqstd

To amend the National Cultural Center Act to extend for an additional three years the period during which construction funds may be received, and to put the National Cultural Center on a sound, businesslike basis, and for other purposes.

DOC

2. H.R.7391-7/5/63-Mr.Widnall-88thC-Rpt Rqstd

To authorize and direct the Architect of the Capitol to construct the third Library of Congress building in square 732 in the District of Columbia, to provide that such building shall be designated the "President James Madison Memorial Library", and to provide that additional facilities for the Library of Congress shall be built in squares 637 and 691 in the District of Columbia in order to render unnecessary the construction (at a cost of $39 million) of a special memorial to President James Madison, and for other purposes.

3. H.R.5495-4/4/63-Mr.Lindsay-88thC-Rpt Rqstd

To provide for the establishment of a Federal Advisory Council on the Arts to assist in the growth and development of the fine arts in the United States.

EXHIBIT H

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON SHIPSTEAD-LUCE ACT APPLICATIONS 7/24/63

NO	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
2610	1413 Penna. Ave., NW Occidental Restaurant	Replace entryway on left with alum. awning to go between other awning exist. Green with white stripes. Entryway on right already removed. Awning will have fixed iron frames;

ACTION: App'd. Use of alum. awning is app'd., in this instance, on the basis of exist. conditions, where the same material prevails in close proximity, 7/10/63.

2620	2200 P St., NW Gulf Oil Co. Service Station	Install ice cube vending machine. Rev. of SL 2592.

ACTION: Disap'd. While photos. indicate some improvement has been made in the appearance of the machine by painting out certain signs, its location is still unchanged in relation to the bldg. This was undesirable, the Commission stated in a previous application (SL 2592, dtd. 3/22/63). Recom. relocating unit elsewhere on lot away from bldg. to avoid cluttered appearance. Also suggest organizing all machines together under a single shelter so as to provide an organized grouping of elements, 7/22/63.

2621	2700 Chesapeake St., NW Mr & Mrs Samuel J. Decker	Addition to residence.

ACTION: Approved, 7/22/63.

64-1	2657 Military Rd., NW St. John's College High School	2 s-f signs, 24 sq-ft each, free-standing. 1 to face on 27th St. 1 to face on Military Rd. Blue, baked enamel texture, aluminum material.

ACTION: Ret'd. for drawing showing revised lettering scheme for 6' by 4' sign. Also recom. 1 d-f sign in lieu of 2 s-f signs, 7/22/63.

64-3	2264 Cathedral Avenue, N. W. Mrs. Harry F. Clark	Entr. steps & stoop to replace exist. covered porch.

ACTION: App'd., 7/10/63.

APPENDIX 1

NO	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
64-2	6036 Oregon Ave., NW Embassy, U.S.S.R.	4-story embassy chancery bldg.
ACTION:	See attached ltr. dtd. 7/24/63 to Ass't. Supt. of Licenses & Permits, 7/24/63.	
64-4	#4 & #8 F St., NW Fritzl's Brav Haus	Sidewalk.
ACTION:	App'd., provided photos. showing location, & drawing of planting boxes are submitted for review, 7/24/63.	
64-5	Edgeville Terrace & Rock Creek Drive Sandoz, Inc.	1 40-sq-ft real estate sign. Temporary. Painted. Black ltrs. on white bckgd.
ACTION:	App'd. as a tempo. sign, provided that text is modified according to attached sketch; that sign not exceed 25 sq-ft, & that it be set back a minimum of 25' from the property line along the Park. Also ltrs. to be white on a dark green bckgd., 7/17/63.	
64-6	4395 Colorado Ave., NW Mr & Mrs. James B. Huntley	New 1-story masonry dwelling.
ACTION:	App'd., provided left side elevation be screened from view by planting, 7/24/63.	
64-7	1326-22nd St., NW John McLeese	Replace exist. rear porches with new porches. No enlargements.
ACTION:	App'd., 7/24/63.	
64-8	800-17th St., NW Riggs National Bank	4 s-f signs, 40 sq-ft each. Cast alum. ltrs. flat against bldg. line walls. 2 facing 17th St. 2 facing H St.
ACTION:	Disap'd. Recom. sign be centered on facade, with the top line having ltrs. of uniform 14" height & style, 7/24/63.	
Inf. 64-9	2500 Calvert St., NW Shoreham Hotel	New ballroom extension to exist. Shoreham Hotel with necessary kitchen & pantry facilities.
ACTION:	App'd., 7/24/63.	

NO	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
64-10	1845 Harvard St., NW Albert Abramson et al (Apt. bldg.)	Rev. of SL 2618. New apt. bldg. Roof plan & penthouse plan.
ACTION:	App'd. as revised, 7/24/63.	
64-11	300 Penna. Ave., SE American Savings & Loan Assn.	Install 60 watts of flourescent lighting in metal valance attached to top of present sign.
ACTION:	Approved, 7/24/63.	

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON OLD GEORGETOWN ACT APPLICATIONS 7/24/63

NO	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
3453	3260 N St., NW O. Berg	Install white asbestos shingles on west wall of house over exist. clapboard.
ACTION:	Recom'd., 6/25/63.	
3454	3335 M St., NW Eagle Wine & Liquors	1 s-f, 18 sq-ft sign painted on wall facing parking lot. Black ltrs. on white bckgd.
ACTION:	Not recom'd. Suggest smaller free-standing sign located adjacent to entranceway, limiting text to parking reference & identity of business. Size and character of lettering to be uniform, 7/24/63.	
3455	1563-33rd St., NW Wilton F. Schombert	Rev. of OG 3431. Remove exist. iron steps & replace with br., w. i. rail. Remove exist. glass frame & replace with 6/6. New steps same size as exist.
ACTION:	Recom'd., provided transom is added over doorway per attached sketch, or for placement of new door within exist. opening with no change to segmental arch & brick trim, 6/25/63.	
3456	3001 M St., NW Blair Lighting Fixture Co.	Rev. of OG 3377. Install 2 lighting fixtures.
ACTION:	Recom'd., for lighting fixture No. 277B as shown in illustration submitted, 7/2/63.	
3457	1653 Wisc. Ave., NW Mrs Betty J. Godfrey	Add bay window to replace exist. 1st fl. windows.
ACTION:	Recom'd., provided entablature be lightened according to attached sketch, 7/2/63.	
3459	1403 Wisc. Ave., NW Northrup's Gas Station	2 s-f, signs, 10 sq-ft each. 1 on front & 1 on side of structure. Blue ltrs. mounted on white plexiglas bckgd.
ACTION:	Not recom'd. Exist. signs sufficient to identify place of business, 7/24/63.	
3460	1048-29th St., NW District Lithograph Co.	Refinish exist. sign as shown in photos. s-f, 25 sq-ft. Wh. bckgd. with black ltrs. No chg. in size, colors or copy.
ACTION:	Recom'd., provided white horizontal band be painted to match bldg., 6/25/63.	

NO	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
3461	3314 M St., NW Meyer Shuman	Replace exist. rear wood stair & porches with steel stair & porches; no change in size.

ACTION: Recom'd., provided all metal work painted black, 6/25/63.

3462	1234 Wisc. Ave., NW Alvin Peck (Dress Shop)	Rev. of OG 3394. Install new wood entr. door & side lights & glazed wood sash.

ACTION: Recom'd., provided that doorway is relocated to smaller opening on right hand side. Also raise sill of both door & window, omitting bottom row of lights. Request sketch of revised design, 6/25/63.

3463	2901 K St., NW Howat Concrete Co.	Rev. of OG 3451. Install additional cement bin to exist. plant.

ACTION: Recom'd. as mechanical equipment, provided all exposed structure is painted a neutral finish medium grey, 6/27/63.

3464	1302 Wisc. Ave., NW Jos. M. Wise (Commercial)	Raze 1-story frame addn. & replace with 1-story brick addn. to bldg.

ACTION: No obj. to razing exist. structure. Design of replacement not recom'd. Suggest restudy, substituting br. panels for decorative iron work & omitting stone belt course, 6/25/63.

3465	1344-30th St., NW Mr & Mrs J. Burke Wilkinson	Raise exist. brick fence to 7'-10". Erect grape arbor fence.

ACTION: Recom'd., 6/25/63.

3466	3242 M St., NW Niagara Cyclo-Massage	2 s-f signs. One 20"x 40". One 4"x40". Red ltrs. (script), white bckgd. Black ltrs., white bckgd. Wood ltrs. fastened to bldg. front over showwindow, & door. (Signs existing)

ACTION: Not recom'd. Suggest smaller sign with classical ltrs. located in frieze over showwindow, 7/24/63.

3467	3145 M St., NW Riggs Nat'l. Bank	Extension of exist. parking facility to incl. area where exist. bldg. now stands. Raze bldg.

ACTION: See attached ltr. dtd. 7/24/63 to Ass't. Supt'd. of Licenses & Permits, 7/24/63.

NO	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
64-1	1111-34th St., NW Chris. Heurich, Jr.	Rev. of OG 3445. 3' ret. wall. Cement, brick, & steel.
ACTION:	Recom'd. as revised, 7/2/63.	
64-2	1304 Wisc. Ave., NW Martin's	1 s-f sign. Non-illuminated. To be painted over front showwindow. Gold, edged in black.
ACTION:	Ret'd. for photos, & drawings, showing relation of sign to bldg., 7/22/63.	
64-3	2812 R St., NW Mrs. Carley Dawson	Front entrance cover.
ACTION:	Ret'd. for accurate scale drawing showing relation of new covered entr. to exist. conditions, 7/9/63.	
64-5	1637 Wisc. Ave., NW Rare Gift Shop	Rev. of Inf. OG 3407. Remodel store.
ACTION:	Recom'd. Suggest raising transom bar slightly to align with adjoining horizontal muntin in showwindow. Also, no muntins to exceed 3/4" in thickness, 7/9/63.	
Inf. 64-6	1010-14 Wisc. Ave., NW Maloney Concrete Co.	Rev. of OG 3447. Additions & alterations.
ACTION:	Recom'd. as revised, with exception of Wisc. Ave. entr. to bldg. at 1010 Wisc. Ave., which should be simplified. Also complete gable wall on rear elevation, middle bldg., as amended on drawing A-4. Request sketch of revised treatment of entranceway, as discussed with Mr. Earl Gauger, 7/17/63.	
64-7	3280 N St., NW Herbert Block	Air conditioning unit on roof of residence.
ACTION:	Ret'd. for add'l. inf. as to location of air conditioning unit on roof, 7/16/63.	

NO	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
64-8	1264 Wisc. Ave., NW Martin's Tavern	Remove plate glass from showwindows, install new wood sash, close up balance of opening with stuccoed cinder-block. Install new tin roof. Remove part of marquee over entr.

ACTION: Not recom'd; no obj. to proposed work except for proportion of window openings on 1st fl. Suggest lowering sill to accommodate extra row of lights, 7/24/63.

64-9	1027-33rd St., NW Safety Tire Co.	1 s-f, 14 sq-ft sign. Wood sign hanging from bldg. Black ltrs. on white bckgd. (Sign existing.)

ACTION: No objection to exist. sign, 7/16/63.

64-10	1725 Wisc. Ave., NW Kunin's Art Custom Tailor	Rev. of OG 3378. 1 s-f, 24 sq-ft sign. Gold ltrs. on black bckgd. Non-illuminated.

ACTION: Not recom'd. Recom. single line of text with uniform classical ltrs. throughout, 7/24/63.

64-11	1727-34th St., NW Mr & Mrs Austin E. Thompson	Erect new brick stoop & steps on exist. stoop.

ACTION: Recom'd., 7/16/63.

64-12	1234 Wisc. Ave., NW Billy Martin (Dress Shop)	4 yellow awnings, leather. 3 over show windows & 1 over doors. No fixed iron frames or posts. Suspended from bldg.

ACTION: Ret'd. for photos & larger sample of material. Recom. single roll-type awning at entranceway, omitting side. No lettering to be on awning fabric, 7/22/63.

64-13	3030 Cambridge Pl., NW Harold M. Hochman	Replace exist. 1/1 d-h windows with new 6/6 d-h windows. No chg. in size of wall openings. Attach wooden window boxes under all front-facing windows.

ACTION: Recom'd., provided muntins do not exceed 3/4" in width, 7/22/63.

NO	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
64-14	3107-09 M St., NW S.S. & R. Meyerson (Commercial)	Rev. of Informal OG 3443. Remodel 3-story store & office bldg.
ACTION:	Superceded by OG 64-16, 7/22/63.	
64-16	3107-09 M St., NW S.S. & R. Meyerson (Commercial)	Rev. of OG 64-14. Remodel 3-story store & off. bldg.
ACTION:	Recom'd. as revised, 7/17/63, 7/22/63.	